

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3309

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, GQ, SL

SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24); MILITARY BASES AND FOREIGN
ECONOMIC INTERESTS ITEMS: SIERRA LEONE

REF: STATE 180931

1. ON AUGUST 17, MISSION OFFICER DISCUSSED US CONCERN TO AVOID
REPETITION OF LAST YEAR'S LANGUAGE CONDEMNING US MILITARY
BASES IN GUAM AND THE CARIBBEAN AND CONDEMNATION OF
NATO IN THE C-24'S CHAPTERS ON MILITARY BASES AND FOREIGN
ECONOMIC INTEREST WITH SIERRA LEONE MISSION OFFICER NICOL. NICOL
ACKNOWLEDGED OUR CONCERN AND SAID THAT WHILE HE MIGHT SPEAK
DURING THE C-24 CONSIDERATION OF THE FOREIGN ECONOMIC INTERESTS
ITEM, HE DOUBTED THAT HE WOULD INTERVENE ON THE MILITARY
ACTIVITIES QUESTION. MISSION OFFICER DISCUSSED USG RIGHTS
TO MAINTAIN MILITARY BASES ON NON-SELFGOVERNING TERRITORIES,
THE 13TH GUAM LEGISLATURE RESOLUTION REQUESTING MORE MILITARY
BASES ON GUAM AND THE UPCOMING STATUS REFERENDUM IN
GUAM ON SEPTEMBER 4. HE POINTED OUT THAT CHARGES
THAT US MILITARY BASES IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS POSE A
THREAT TO THE CARIBBEAN ARE REDICULOUS SINCE THERE ARE ONLY
A FEW COAST GUARDSMEN-WHOSE PRIMARY TASKS ARE SEARCH AND
RESCUE AND MAINTENANCE OF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS -- IN THE
US VIRGIN ISLANDS.

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